IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claim will replace all prior versions and listings of claim in the present application.

Listing of Claims

1.   (currently amended) A database management method for managing a database including a table, said method comprising the steps of:

entering a database definition request including identification information for specifying a database and access attribute information of said database;

wherein said access attribute information includes tamper proof information regarding the table included in the database for protecting the database including the table from being falsely or erroneously updated,

wherein said tamper proof information defines whether the table is associated with an insert-only attribute which indicates that the table can not be updated, row deletion prohibiting period information which indicates a time period during which a row of the table can not be deleted, and row insertion date and time holding information which indicates the date and time a row is inserted into the table;

if the table is associated with said database access attribute information is an said insert-only attribute, authorizing data insertion and access to data in the table of said database and not authorizing update of the table;

if the table is associated with said insert-only attribute and said row deletion prohibiting period information, authorizing deletion of a row of the table of said database provided the time period during which the row of the

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table can not be deleted has expired~~specifying at least an attribute of a data deletion prohibition period to said database~~;

if the table is associated with said insert-only attribute and said row insertion date and time holding information, storing date and time information indicating the date and time a row is inserted into the table of said database; and

disabling change of said insert-only attribute after said insert-only attribute is specified,

wherein said attribute cannot be changed other than by a manager of an upper database level.

2.   (currently amended) A database management method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

executing data insertion processing after date and time information ~~time stamp data~~ to be stored ~~saved in the row insertion history holding column~~ is-has been created;

if said time period during which a row of the table can not be deleted ~~data deletion prohibition period~~ has passed since the time when said row data to be deleted was registered, authorizing deletion of said row ~~data~~ to be deleted; and

if said time period during which a row of the table can not be deleted ~~data deletion prohibition period~~ has not passed since the time when said row ~~data~~ to be deleted was registered, prohibiting the deletion of said row ~~data~~ to be deleted.

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Claims 3-4 (canceled).

5. (currently amended) A database management method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the table of said database associated with said insert-only attribute holds an unload date and time in said database, in the case of reloading said database, it is determined if said unload date and time is matched to that stored in an external storage medium, and if matched, the process of reloading said database is executed.

6.   (currently amended) A database management method as claimed in claim 1, wherein if no insert-only attribute is associated with the table of specified to said database to be unloaded, the reload of said database to be unloaded, the reload of said database with said insert-only attribute specified thereto is prohibited.

Claim 7 (canceled).

8. (currently amended) A database management apparatus for managing a database including a table, comprising:

means for entering a database definition request identification information for specifying a database and access attribute information of said database,

wherein said access attribute information includes tamper proof information regarding the table included in the database for protecting the database including the table from being falsely or erroneously updated,

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wherein said tamper proof information defines whether the table is associated with an insert-only attribute which indicates that the table can not be updated, row deletion prohibiting period information which indicates a time period during which a row of the table can not be deleted, and row insertion date and time holding information which indicates the date and time a row is inserted into the table; and

means for, if the table is associated with said insert-only attribute, authorizing data insertion and access to data in the table of said database and not authorizing update of the table, if the table is associated with said insert-only attribute and said row deletion prohibiting period information, authorizing deletion of a row of the table of said database provided the time period during which the row of the table can not be deleted has expired, if the table is associated with said insert-only attribute and said row insertion date and time holding information, storing date and time information indicating the date and time a row is inserted into the table of said database, and disabling change of said insert-only attribute after said insert-only attribute is specified, ~~if said database definition request is a first specification of an insert-only attribute, authorizing data insertion and data access in said database and specifying at least an attribute of a data deletion prohibition period to said database~~

wherein said attribute cannot be changed other than by a manager on an upper database level.

9.   (currently amended) A database management program, stored on a storage medium, for managing a database including a table, said

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database management program when executed cause a computer to perform ~~comprising~~ the steps of:

entering a database definition request including identification information for specifying a database and access attribute information of said database;

wherein said access attribute information includes tamper proof information regarding the table included in the database for protecting the database including the table from being falsely or erroneously updated,

wherein said tamper proof information defines whether the table is associated with an insert-only attribute which indicates that the table can not be updated, row deletion prohibiting period information which indicates a time period during which a row of the table can not be deleted, and row insertion date and time holding information which indicates the date and time a row is inserted into the table;

if the table is associated with said insert-only attribute, authorizing data insertion and access to data in the table of said database and not authorizing update of the table;

if the table is associated with said insert-only attribute and said row deletion prohibiting period information, authorizing deletion of a row of the table of said database provided the time period during which the row of the table can not be deleted has expired;

if the table is associated with said insert-only attribute and said row insertion date and time holding information, storing date and time information indicating the date and time a row is inserted into the table of said database; and

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if said access attribute information includes an insert-only attribute,

authorizing data insertion and data access in said database and specifying at

least an attribute of a data deletion prohibition period to said database; and

disabling change of said attribute after said attribute is specified,

wherein said attribute cannot be changed other than by a manager of

an upper database level.

Claim 10 (canceled).

11.   (currently amended) A database management method as

claimed in claim 1, wherein said insert-only attribute is specified to a column

of the table of said database.

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